

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a forwardly folding toolbar for a farm implement, said toolbar being operatively connected to a tongue, the method comprising:
 - (a) operatively; attaching a center section to the tongue of the toolbar at a substantially right angle;
 - (b) operatively, pivotally attaching an inner end of an inner wing section to each end of the center section on a substantially horizontal pivot axis;
 - (c) operatively, pivotally attaching an inner end of an outer wing section to an outer end of each inner wing section, the outer wing section having an outer end wherein a distance between the outer end of the outer wing section and the inner end of the inner wing section is greater than a distance between the inner end of the outer wing section and the inner end of the inner wing section; and
 - (d) adjusting the length of the tongue to cause a rotating of both wing sections at pivot points located on the center section to bring outer ends of the wing sections forward until the wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue, the outer end of the outer wing section disposed more forward than the inner end of the outer wing section.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising supporting the center section with ground engaging wheels.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising supporting pivot points between each of the wing sections with ground engaging wheels.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising supporting ends of the outer sections with ground engaging wheels at each extreme end of the outer wing sections.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein actuators are provided for raising the pivot points relative to the ground engaging wheels, upon folding, the method additionally comprising raising the pivot points between each of the wing sections relative to the ground engaging wheels with the actuators therebetween before the step of rotating both wing sections.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein actuators are provided for raising the pivot points relative to the ground engaging wheels, upon folding, the method additionally comprising raising the extreme end of each of the wing sections relative to the ground engaging wheels with the actuators therebetween before the step of rotating both wing sections.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 additionally comprising the step of lowering the pivot points between each of the wing sections relative to the ground engaging wheels with the actuators therebetween when the wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 additionally comprising the step of lowering the extreme end of each of the wing sections relative to the ground engaging wheels with the actuators therebetween when the wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7 additionally comprising engaging a latch to the

tongue of the toolbar upon lowering the pivot points between each of the wing sections.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8 additionally comprising engaging a latch to the tongue of the toolbar upon lowering the extreme end of the wing section.

11. (Currently Amended) An implement toolbar that is forwardly folding comprising:

- (a) a tongue having a forward end and a rearward end, the tongue having an extended length and a contracted length, the extended length being longer than the contracted length;
- (b) a center section operatively attached to the tongue at a substantially right angle;
- (c) inner wing sections, operatively pivotally attached at inner ends of the inner wing sections to each end of the center section on substantially horizontal pivot axes;
- (d) outer wing sections, operatively pivotally attached at inner ends of the outer wing sections to an outer end of each inner wing section, the outer wing sections having outer ends wherein a distance between one of the outer ends of the outer wing sections and an associated inner end of one of the inner wing sections is greater than a distance between one of the inner ends of the outer wing sections and the associated inner end of one of the inner wing sections; and
- (e) folding means operatively attached to the tongue for rotating both wing sections at pivot points located on the center section to bring outer ends of the wing sections toward the forward end of the tongue until the wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue and the outer ends of the outer wing sections are disposed forward of the inner ends of the outer wing sections.

12. (Original) The implement toolbar of claim **11** additionally comprising ground engaging wheels for supporting the center section.

13. (Original) The implement toolbar of claim **11** additionally comprising ground engaging wheels for supporting pivot points between each of the wing sections.

14. (Original) The implement toolbar of claim **11** additionally comprising ground engaging wheels for supporting ends of the outer sections, said ground engaging wheels being located substantially at each extreme end of the outer wing sections.

15. (Original) The implement toolbar of claim **13** additionally comprising actuators for raising the pivot points relative to the ground engaging wheels during folding.

16. (Original) The implement toolbar of claim **14** additionally comprising actuators for raising the pivot points relative to the ground engaging wheels during folding.

17. (Previously presented) The implement toolbar of claim **15** additionally comprising a latch for operatively affixing a pivot point between the inner wing section and the outer wing section to the tongue of the toolbar by lowering the pivot point between each of the wing sections after the wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue.

18. (Currently Amended) The implement toolbar of claim **16** additionally comprising a

latch for ~~operably~~ operatively affixing an extreme end of the outer wing section to the tongue of the toolbar by lowering the extreme end of the outer wing section after the wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue.

19. (Currently Amended) An implement toolbar that is horizontally folding comprising:

- (a) a tongue having a forward end and a rearward end, an extended length and a contracted length, the extended length being longer than the contracted length;
- (b) a center section comprising a stationary portion operatively, rigidly affixed to the tongue, and a pivoting portion, operatively, pivotally attached at an inner end to an outer end of the stationary portion at a substantially vertical pivot axis;
- (~~bc~~) ~~more than three sections comprising a center section having two ends and at least three two wing sections, each operatively pivotally attached end to end to one another on substantially horizontal pivot axes, one end of one of the at least two wing sections being operatively pivotally attached to the pivoting portion of the center section at substantially horizontal pivot axes, ~~at the center section and the at least two wing sections lying substantially linearly from each end of the center section to an outer end of an outermost wing section in an operating configuration;~~~~
and
- (~~ed~~) ~~folding means operatively attached to the tongue for rotating the pivoting portion of the center section and the at least three two wing sections at the substantially vertical pivot points axis located on the center section to bring an outer ends of the pivoting portion of the center section and the at least three two wing sections forward until the pivoting portion of the center section and the at least three two~~

wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue and substantially linearly from each ~~substantially vertical pivot point axis located on the center section to said an~~ outer end of the ~~an~~ outermost wing section.

20. (Original) The implement toolbar of claim 19 wherein the toolbar is forwardly folding.
21. (Previously presented) The implement of claim 19 including a forward end of the tongue, adapted to be attached to a rear end of a prime mover.
22. (Previously presented) The implement of claim 19 including a hitch disposed on a forward end of the tongue, said hitch being adapted to be attached to a rear end of a prime mover.
23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 including attaching a forward end of the tongue to a tractor for towing the implement forwardly.
24. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a forwardly folding toolbar for a farm implement, said toolbar being operatively connected to a tongue, the method comprising:
- (a) operatively, attaching a center section to the tongue of the toolbar at a substantially right angle;
 - (b) operatively, pivotally attaching an inner end of an inner wing section to each end of the center section on a substantially horizontal pivot axis;
 - (c) operatively, pivotally attaching an inner end of an outer wing section to an outer end of each inner wing section, the outer wing section having an outer end

wherein a distance between the outer end of the outer wing section and the inner end of the inner wing section is greater than a distance between the inner end of the outer wing section and the inner end of the inner wing section; and

- (d) rotating both wing sections at pivot points located on the center section to bring outer ends of the both wing sections forward until the both wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue, the outer end of the outer wing section disposed more forward than the inner end of the outer wing section and wherein a front portion of the tongue is thereby caused to be disposed more forward than the both wing sections.

25. (Currently Amended) An implement toolbar that is forwardly folding comprising:

- (a) a tongue having a forward end and a rearward end;
- (b) a center section operatively attached to the tongue at a substantially right angle;
- (c) inner wing sections, operatively pivotally attached on substantially horizontal pivot axes at inner ends of the inner wing sections to each end of the center section;
- (d) outer wing sections, operatively pivotally attached at inner ends of the outer wing sections to an outer end of each inner wing section, the outer wing sections having outer ends wherein a distance between one of the outer ends of the outer wing sections and an associated inner end of one of the inner wing sections is greater than a distance between one of the inner ends of the outer wing sections and the associated inner end of one of the inner wing sections; and

- (e) folding means for rotating both inner and outer wing sections at pivot points located on the center section to bring outer ends of the inner and outer wing sections toward the forward end of the tongue until the inner and outer wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue and the outer ends of the outer wing sections are disposed forward of the inner ends of the outer wing sections and whereby the forward end of the tongue is disposed in front of the inner and outer wing sections so that such forward end of the tongue can be adapted to be attached to the rear of a tractor.

26. (Currently Amended) An implement toolbar that is horizontally folding comprising:

- (a) a tongue having a forward portion and a rear portion;
- (b) a center section including a stationary portion, operatively rigidly affixed to the tongue, and a pivoting portion, operatively pivotally attached at a first end at a substantially vertical pivot axis to an end of the stationary portion;
- (bc) ~~more than three sections comprising a center section having two ends and at least three two~~ wing sections, each operatively pivotally attached to one another end to end on substantially horizontal pivot axes, ~~at the stationary section and the pivoting portion of the center section and the at least two wing sections the sections~~ lying substantially co-linearly from each end of the center section to an outer end of an outermost wing section when in an operative position thereof;
- (d) a pivot joint on a substantially horizontal pivot axis, at which an inner end of an innermost wing section of the at least two wing sections is operatively, pivotally attached to the pivoting portion of the center section; and

(~~ec~~) wherein ~~the pivoting portion of the center section and~~ the at least ~~three~~ two wing sections lie substantially parallel to the tongue and substantially ~~co~~-linearly from each ~~the substantially vertical pivot point axis located on~~ of the center section to ~~said an~~ outer end of ~~the an~~ outermost wing section and whereby the forward portion of the tongue is disposed more forward than any part of the at least ~~three~~ two wing sections in a transport position thereof.

27. (Previously Presented) The implement toolbar of claim 26 wherein said ~~more than~~ three at least two wing sections comprise at least four wing sections.

28. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the center section comprises a stationary portion, a first pivoting portion, and a second pivoting portion, and wherein operatively attaching a center section to the tongue of the toolbar comprises:

- (a) operatively, rigidly attaching the stationary portion to the tongue of the toolbar;
- (b) operatively, pivotally attaching the first pivoting portion to the stationary portion at a first one of the pivot points located on the center section;
- (c) orienting a first pivot axis of said first of the pivot points located on the center section to be substantially vertical;
- (d) operatively, pivotally attaching the second pivoting portion to the stationary portion at a second one of the pivot points located on the center section; and
- (e) orienting a second pivot axis of said second of the pivot points located on the center section to be substantially vertical.

29. (New) The implement toolbar of claim **11** wherein the center section comprises:

- (a) a stationary portion, operatively rigidly affixed to the tongue; and
- (b) a first pivoting portion, pivotally attached to a first end of the stationary portion by a first of the pivot points at a first substantially vertical pivot axis; and
- (c) a second pivoting portion, pivotally attached to a second end of the stationary portion by a second of the pivot points at a second substantially vertical pivot axis.

30. (New) The method of claim **24** wherein the center section comprises a stationary portion, a first pivoting portion, and a second pivoting portion, and wherein operatively attaching a center section to the tongue of the toolbar comprises:

- (a) operatively, rigidly attaching the stationary portion to the tongue of the toolbar;
- (b) operatively, pivotally attaching the first pivoting portion to the stationary portion at a first one of the pivot points located on the center section;
- (c) orienting a first pivot axis of said first one of the pivot points located on the center section to be substantially vertical;
- (d) operatively, pivotally attaching the second pivoting portion to the stationary portion at a second one of the pivot points located on the center section; and
- (e) orienting a second pivot axis of said second one of the pivot points located on the center section to be substantially vertical.

31. (New) The implement toolbar of claim **25** wherein the center section comprises:

- (a) a stationary portion, operatively rigidly affixed to the tongue; and

- (b) a first pivoting portion, pivotally attached to a first end of the stationary portion by a first of the pivot points at a first substantially vertical pivot axis; and
- (c) a second pivoting portion, pivotally attached to a second end of the stationary portion by a second of the pivot points at a second substantially vertical pivot axis.